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January 5, 2018

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire
Chief Clerk & Administrator
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re: Joint Petition of Aiken Electric Cooperative, Incorporated; Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Incorporated; Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC; and South Carolina Electric & Gas Company for the Assignment and Reassignment of Territory in Aiken, Saluda, and Edgefield Counties and Approval of an Agreement to Limit Corridor Rights

Docket No. 2017-337-E

Dear Ms. Boyd:

By this letter, the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") hereby notifies the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("the Commission") that ORS has reviewed and does not object to the filing submitted by Aiken Electric Cooperative, Incorporated ("Aiken Electric"); Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Incorporated ("Mid-Carolina"); Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC ("DEC"); and South Carolina Electric & Gas Company ("SCE&G") (collectively "Parties") for the Assignment and Reassignment of Territory in Aiken, Saluda, and Edgefield Counties and Approval of an Agreement to Limit Corridor Rights ("Joint Petition").

Under S.C. Code Ann. § 58-27-610(1) (2015), the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") may reassign a portion of previously assigned service areas upon agreement of the affected electric suppliers. The Joint Petition includes the request to (A) assign and reassign various territories in Aiken County between Aiken Electric, Mid-Carolina and SCE&G, (B) assign and reassign various territories in Saluda County between Aiken Electric, DEC and SCE&G, (C) assign and reassign various territories in Edgefield County between Aiken Electric

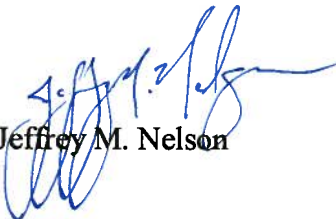
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and SCE&G, and (D) limit “corridor rights” in specified areas in Aiken, Saluda, and Edgefield Counties.

Under S.C. Code Ann. § 58-27-620(8) (2015), the Commission may approve agreements between electric suppliers concerning corridor rights. The Parties request approval of their agreement not to assert corridor rights outside the territory assigned to them in the area described in the Joint Petition.

The Parties indicate their agreement resulted from lengthy and good faith negotiations, the desire to avoid wasteful duplication of electric distribution lines, and to operate those systems safely. In addition, the Parties have given careful consideration to system economy, service reliability and good utility practice, efficiency and safety. If approved, ORS recommends requiring the Parties to file amended territorial assignment maps for Aiken, Saluda, and Edgefield Counties to reflect the modifications requested in the Joint Petition.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey M. Nelson

cc: Frank R. Ellerbe, III, Esquire (via E-Mail)
J. David Black, Esquire (via E-Mail & U.S. Mail)
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